

MURDER AND SUICIDE OR WAS IT DOUBLE MURDER?--BLOODY TRAGEDY

**Bodies of "Dutch May" Prescott and Husband Found
Dead in Blood Drenched Room, Where Fearful
Tragedy had been Enacted--Bodies Char-
red From Burned Bedding Which
Partially Covered Them**

One of the most horrible crimes ever committed in Flagstaff was brought to light Wednesday afternoon, when Coroner J. O. Harrington broke into a small shack in the rear of a house in the red light district.

The bodies of "Dutch May" and that of her recently married husband were found badly seared and discolored by the burning of the bed clothing.

Prescott's throat had been cut from ear to ear with a razor, and a bullet wound in his head. Either wound would have caused his death.

"Dutch May," his wife, had been shot through the head and lay huddled against Prescott on the bed badly charred.

The room was spattered and drenched in blood.

Prescott held a six-shooter in his hand, fully loaded except for the cartridge under the hammer, which had been discharged.

An old razor was found in the yard and a bloody razor found inside the house, where the tragedy had been enacted.

The two bodies were badly burned from a fire that had been started in some manner after the two had been covered up with bed clothing. The fire burned up a great part of the bedding and down to the floor, but either was smothered in the locked-up room or was put out by some one.

A pet dog belonging to the woman was shot, and a canary bird in the room was found dead. Numerous bullet holes were found in the ceiling of the little room, and a number of shells in the enclosed yard near the house.

The last time the woman was seen was Monday, when a couple of the habitués of the district spoke to her.

Prescott, who had been down in Texas, came back to Flagstaff on the late train Saturday night.

Bloody Note Found.

A blood smeared note was found on the dresser, which from comparison with other letters, was undoubtedly written by Prescott. It read:

"To the Public:
"May and I quarreled over a P. I. that always came here and tried to break up our home, and she attacked me with a razor which is around here somewhere. I shot her then myself. Notify Mrs. P. L. Prescott 325 Garfield Ave, K. C. Mrs. C. M. Prescott, Santa Barbara, Cal."

The pad was seared with the smoke of the fire, but the writing did not seem to indicate any excitement on the part of the writer, as the let-

ters were formed smoothly and on even lines with capital letters and general makeup of letters found addressed to his wife in her trunk.

Many Ghastly Wounds Found.

There were many ghastly wounds found on the two bodies. The woman had been shot through the head twice and her throat cut. Either of the wounds would have produced instant death.

Prescott's throat had been cut from ear to ear, and several deep cuts were found in his back and a bullet wound in his head. From the nature of the wounds and the condition in which the two were found, it does not seem possible that the note left by Prescott covered the tragedy.

Bodies Found Wednesday.

The bodies were found Wednesday afternoon by Judge Harrington. Everett Hanna, who was building a new residence for the woman on the lots just north of the little shack where the tragedy occurred, wished to see her concerning the plans of the new house. He rapped and received no answer, but detected a peculiar odor and notified Judge Harrington, believing something was wrong. Harrington investigated and found the charred remains of the unfortunate couple in the blood smeared room.

The little board shack contained but two rooms and was enclosed, except the front door facing north, by a high board fence. There was no evidence in the yard to give a clue to the double killing, except a few exploded cartridge shells. There was a smear of blood on the doorknob outside and a slight stain on the screen door. Inside it looked as though an attempt had been made to wash up the blood stains with water.

The ghastly affair seems shrouded in mystery. It does not look probable that Prescott could have shot the woman, wrote the note, shot himself, cut his own throat in such a manner and then set fire to the bedding which partially covered them both.

"Dutch May" Peters, as she was known here before being married to Prescott some months ago, has lived here a good many years and had accumulated considerable property in the restricted district. She had the reputation of being peacefully inclined, with no enemies.

No one knew of any trouble between she and her husband previously, and letters found in her trunk from him did not indicate any previous trouble, but that they were on the most affectionate terms with one another.

RAILROADS WILL NOT ACCEPT CERTAIN FREIGHT

To the Public:

In view of the announcement of certain employees of this company to engage in a strike to become effective at seven a. m. Monday, Sept. 4th, agents are hereby instructed, first, to notify intended travelers that the company will not be responsible for any delay that may occur after the time above mentioned; second, to notify all shippers that property except perishable property, live stock and explosives will be accepted after seven a. m. Sept. 4th for transportation subject to indefinite delay, and shipping receipts or bills of lading so endorsed, perishable property, livestock and explosives will not be received for transportation until further advised; third, it will be the purpose of the company so far as it may be in its power to do so to provide transportation necessary for the health and subsistence of the community dependent upon it; fourth, to move at least one train each way daily for the transportation of passengers, mail and express; fifth, to gradually expand those activities so far as may be practicable. Agents have been advised to notify all parties interested in accordance with the foregoing program will notify officers of municipalities that the ability to carry out our present intentions will be largely dependent on their willingness and ability to afford protection to the company and its property in so doing.

E. P. RIPLEY,
A. G. WELLS.

RAIN MAKES POTATOES' EYES WATER SOME

Flagstaff has been enjoying considerable weather the past few days. The weather man reports there was .87 of an inch rainfall Monday night and the hot and cold machine registered 76 for the day and 51 degrees above at night. Regardless of that Jack Frost came along a few nights ago and put a crimp in a lot of garden sassa in different sections of the county.

Up in Fort Valley there is a hurry-up call out for the farm doctor on account of the fact that rains have been making the potatoes bust out of their skins, they are growing too fast. This is not one of Art Williams' crooked well stories, but an actual fact.

Congressional Candidate Visits Flagstaff Monday

Dr. J. Bernard Nelson, of Mesa, a candidate for the republican nomination for congress, accompanied by L. L. Gardner of the same city, were in Flagstaff a short time Monday. They are making the trip over the country by auto, seeing the festive voter in his lair and endeavoring to convince them that Nelson is no half-Nelson, but should have a strangle hold on the nomination for the office.

They left here the same day for Holbrook to make the east end of the state, and will come back along the line by easy stages to see more of the voters.

Dr. Nelson is well known in the southern and central part of the state, and from assurances already received, is confident that he will be the party nominee.



TOM CAMPBELL, ARIZONA'S NEXT GOVERNOR, HERE ON NORTHERN TOUR

Tom Campbell, republican candidate for governor, has had a triumphant trip through Coconino county.

Accompanied by Doane Merrill, republican candidate for state auditor, and George H. Smalley, candidate for state tax commissioner, Mr. Campbell has visited Yuma, Mohave, Yavapai and Coconino counties.

The trip is entirely informal and there has been but little public speaking. Mr. Campbell and other republicans on the senatorial and state ticket will return for that after the primaries and after the issues are defined.

Mr. Campbell is very much pleased with the outlook for republican success this fall. He says he merely

stood for election four years ago when he was on the ticket for member of congress; this year he is running for governor, and there is not a better runner in the state than Tom Campbell.

Probably no man in the state has a wider acquaintance than Tom Campbell, and none has a greater number of friends. The state ticket is unusually strong this year, and the people throughout the state are well pleased with the front the republicans have put on. If they are successful, and that is now conceded by the wise ones, the state will have the best administration of its affairs ever known.

Mr. Campbell and party left for Winslow Thursday afternoon.

BIG RAILROAD STRIKE IS CALLED FOR MONDAY

The big railroad strike of over 400,000 men is scheduled to take place next Monday, Labor Day, unless they are granted their demands for an eight-hour day by the railroad managers.

President Wilson has not been able to bring about any solution of the trouble, but as a last resort, is advocating the passage of a compulsory arbitration law similar to that in vogue in Canada.

The railroad managers are making every preparation for the impending strike and seem to have deadlocked with the men.

Late reports last night gave no encouragement to the outlook.

SELLS CONFECTION DEN.

Bert May has sold out the confection den and bakery to Borum and Ramsey, who will take charge of the place today.

Mr. Ramsey has been in the employ of Mr. May for some time and is an expert candy maker, having learned his trade in California. Mr. Borum is well known here, having sold out his interest in the Crawford grocery, now being conducted under the name of the Crawford grocery, to Jos. Crawford.

Mr. May has not decided as yet what he will do in the future, but hardly expects to leave Flagstaff.

On Road to Health Now

Mr. P. J. Linderman returned Sunday from a three months' trip east, visiting in Wisconsin and Indiana. Mrs. Linderman is now visiting in Indiana, where she will remain until fall. Mr. and Mrs. Linderman were both operated upon at the celebrated Mayo Brothers' hospital at Rochester, Minn. Mr. Linderman was operated on for an aggravated case of appendicitis and Mrs. Linderman for a goiter. Both operations were very successful, which will be pleasing information for their friends.

UNCLE SAM WANTS MORE MALE STENOGRAPHERS

The United States civil service commission announces that examination for the position of stenographer and typewriter (male) will be held in this city on September 12 and 26, 1916, for the purpose of providing eligibles for appointment to about 200 newly created positions in the departmental service, Washington, D. C., at entrance salaries of \$900 to \$1,000 per annum.

Age 18 years or over on the date of the examination.

Applicants must be examined in the state or territory in which they reside, and show that they have been actually domiciled in such state or territory for at least one year previous to the date of the examination.

These examinations are open to all male citizens of the United States who meet the requirements.

Application blanks and further information may be obtained from the secretary, Twelfth Civil Service District, San Francisco, California, or from John Garvin, the local secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, care of Forest Supervisor's office, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Pl's a Ford Forty Miles From Ink

Mr. A. C. Wrenn, editor and publisher of the Arizona Blade-Tribune, published at Florence, drifted into Flagstaff from the south in his Henney F., accompanied by his two sons and wife. They had been out to the Grand Canyon and the only trouble reported by Editor Wrenn was too much impression on one corner of the machine when he went to press, about 40 miles out of Flagstaff on the Grand Canyon road. The hub on his journal threw a scarehead and pried right in the middle of the road. Journeymen came along and left enough quads at his camp to keep him form up until he got a new chase from Flagstaff to run the rest of the edition into Flagstaff.

Mr. Wrenn left Monday for a trip to the Petrified Forest and will be home in time to see that Olney gets his vote in the primary election.

NARROWLY ESCAPES DEATH AT RAILROAD CROSSING

Guadalupe Valdivena, a young Mexican about 25 years old, was struck by No. 10 Sunday evening at the San Francisco street crossing and narrowly escaped death. He was carried on the cowcatcher down in front of the depot, where he fell off on the south side of the train between the tracks.

His left arm was stripped of flesh and will have to be amputated; his skull was fractured in back of the head with a bad gash on the side, made when the engine struck him.

The unfortunate man seemingly walked right onto the track in front of the engine which could not have

been over a couple of feet away, for he was thrown back on the side of the track he started across from.

It was first thought that he had been killed outright, but medical aid was rushed to him and he was taken to the county hospital. The following day he was able to get up and showed remarkable vitality after the shock.

The accident occurred within sight of a hundred people or more, who were waiting for the train to pull in, but strange to say only a very few people saw it.

Valdivena has been employed at the F. L. M. sawmill for a long time and is well known here.

THE WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS

Summary of weather and crop conditions in Arizona for the week ending Tuesday, August 29, 1916:

Warm weather continued with frequent showers in the central and eastern counties. The condition of the cattle ranges is reported good to excellent, and stock in fine condition. This summer has been very favorable for dry farm agriculture. In the northern counties good crops of corn and potatoes are indicated, while dry land forage crops such as milo, sudan, kaffir and field beans have made splendid growth and excellent yields seem assured. Haying continues in all parts of the state. Cotton is being picked on the Yuma and Salt River projects. Plowing for winter wheat has begun in the northern counties.

R. Q. GRANT, Meteorologist.

West End Candidate For Supervisor Here

A. R. Montgomery was in the city from Williams last Friday interviewing the republican voters as to his candidacy for the nomination for supervisor, claiming with every degree of reason, that the west end of the county should be represented on the board.

Mr. Montgomery has been a resident of Williams for the past ten years, during which time he has been connected with the Saginaw & Manitowish Lumber company, in a responsible position.

His friends believe he is a capable man and one that would make good if elected to that office. He is not so well known here because his work has prevented his getting away often.

WANTON DESTRUCTION.

Not very long ago the men at the Flagstaff Lumber Manufacturing company's logging camp found a "six-point" buck staggering about out in the woods. Some one had shot this deer, but had not succeeded in killing it outright. After three or four days suffering, the deer was found and put out of its misery.

The Northern Arizona Game Protective Association offers a reward of fifty dollars for any information which will lead to the arrest and conviction of the party or parties who shot the buck. Communications can be addressed to the secretary, Flagstaff, Arizona. See ad in this paper.

Such acts as this one have cut down, in this country, the game supply of deer, antelope, turkey and other diminishing game. It will not be long until a previous plentiful supply of game will simply be a memory, as the buffalo of yesterday.

TOM CAMPBELL AT WILLIAMS.

A good representation of the Flagstaff republican club and candidates went to Williams by auto Monday evening to attend a joint meeting of the ladies and men of the Williams club. Tom Campbell, republican candidate for governor, and other state candidates addressed the meeting.

They were given an enthusiastic reception by the people there, and brought along with them good reports of political conditions in other parts of the state.

A NEW GRANDPA.

M. W. Craig, while he does not look it in the least, was recently advised by his daughter in Salt Lake City, that a baby girl had arrived at the Parkinson home some six weeks before, and that he was a grandfather now. His daughter spent the summer here with him about three years ago, and is well known to many of the young people of Flagstaff.

WILL ORGANIZE SUFFRAGE CLUB IN COCONINO COUNTY

"Suffrage First," the slogan of the Woman's party, is once more being heard in Coconino county, with the arrival of Miss Vivian Pierce of California, who has just come to Flagstaff to perfect the organization of the Woman's party, which was organized in Arizona some months ago by Mrs. St. Clair Thompson.

The Woman's party, a party composed of women only, with one plank in its platform and no candidates, was born in Chicago at the time of the great national conventions, with the sole aim of pressing the federal suffrage amendment, popularly known as the Susan B. Anthony amendment, through this session of congress, or through the next congress.

Miss Pierce and twenty-four other organizers for the Woman's party are canvassing every suffrage state, asking the women voters to lay aside their party affiliations for one election and put "suffrage first." The little phrase has become their national slogan. Three young women are at present in Arizona for the purpose of making the appeal for the liberation of the women of the east to the women of the west. Mrs. St. Clair Thompson, a democratic southern woman, has abandoned the traditions of her family to work for suffrage in the present campaign. Miss Iris Calderhead, now organizing in Apache county, is the daughter of ex-representative Calderhead, of Kansas, a Bryn Mawr graduate, and a zealous worker for the federal amendment.

Miss Vivian Pierce, the young woman who is organizing in Coconino and Mohave counties, is a Californian, for ten years identified with newspaper work in San Francisco and Los Angeles. She has given up journalism until after the passage of the federal amendment, she says:

"We are an absolutely non-partisan suffrage organization," says Miss Pierce. "We are telling women how not to vote and how to vote. There is but one party, the democratic party, that at the present moment does not believe in the liberation of all the women in this country by the speediest possible route--the passage of the suffrage amendment through congress. All other parties stand for the amendment. Hughes has strongly endorsed the federal suffrage amendment."

"President Wilson believes in the enfranchisement of Indians and of Filipinos by the federal government, but not in the enfranchisement of the women of this country. For four years the party of which he is the leader has steadily opposed the passage of the suffrage amendment, this congress not even allowing it to come to a vote in the house, that the people of this country might express themselves on the matter. Even the democrats of the suffrage states demanded that suffrage be voted on this congress--in vain."

"We are therefore asking women, who we believe for this one election will be willing to place the welfare of all the women of the country above mere party, to vote against the re-election of President Wilson, and the candidates of the house and senate who are supporting him in that they belong to his party."

"Before I leave Coconino county I hope I will have a strong organization in every precinct of this county. I would be pleased to have all the women who are interested in this great question communicate with me at the Ideal Hotel."

George Morse, an old-time resident of Flagstaff, was in Flagstaff from Snowflake this week. George says that range conditions and sheep in his section of the country are just about right and the stockmen are not complaining in the least.